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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

HOSHINO et al

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For: **MICROBIAL PRODUCTION OF VITAMIN C**

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July 26, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend as follows: